

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
TEXARKANA DIVISION

CEOTIS FRANKS	§	
VS.	§	CIVIL ACTION NO. 5:17-CV-200
BOWIE COUNTY, TEXAS	§	

MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER REGARDING VENUE

Petitioner, Ceotis Franks, an inmate confined in the Bowie County Jail, proceeding *pro se*, filed this petition for writ of habeas corpus.

Petitioner states he is confined pursuant to a criminal indictment filed on June 26, 1997 in the Circuit Court of Pulaski County, Arkansas in Case Number CR-96-002472. Petitioner asserts he was charged with the following offenses: A.C.A. 5-10-101, A.C.A 5-14.103, A.C.A. 5-11-102 and A.C.A. 5-38-301. Petitioner was arrested for these offenses in June of 1996 and has been continuously confined on these charges since that date with the Arkansas Department of Corrections pursuant to the order of the Pulaski County Circuit Court.

Petitioner states that Wendy Kelley, Director for the Arkansas Department of Correction and James Prince, Sheriff of Bowie County, Texas have violated the orders of the Pulaski County Circuit Court by transferring petitioner from the Arkansas Department of Correction to Bowie County Jail located in Texarkana, Texas.

Petitioner asserts he is being illegally restrained in Texas because he has not been found guilty of a crime in the state of Texas, nor does he have any charges or indictments pending against him in the state of Texas. Petitioner contends his transfer to the Bowie County Jail violated the judgment entered against him in Arkansas. Thus, he claims his confinement is unlawful.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241(d), a petitioner may bring his petition for writ of habeas corpus in either the federal judicial district in which he was convicted or the district in which he is incarcerated. As petitioner states no Texas charges have been filed against him, his incarceration in the Bowie County Jail appears to be the result of some contractual arrangement between Bowie

County and the Arkansas Department of Corrections. Accordingly, his incarceration is due to his Arkansas conviction rather than any action by a Texas court.

As petitioner's incarceration is the result of an Arkansas conviction, the Court is of the opinion this petition should be transferred to the federal judicial district where the conviction occurred. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 83, Pulaski County, where petitioner was convicted, is located in the Western Division of the Eastern District of Arkansas. This petition will therefore be transferred to such division and district.

ORDER

For the reasons set forth above, it is **ORDERED** that this petition is **TRANSFERRED** to the Western Division of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas.

**SIGNED this 1st day of December, 2017.**

  
CAROLINE M. CRAVEN  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE